UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/AC.154/273
3 February 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON RELATIONS WITH
THE HOST COUNTRY

# LETTER DATED 29 JANUARY 1993 FROM THE DEPUTY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES IN THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL ADDRESSED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON RELATIONS WITH THE HOST COUNTRY

Having received a copy of a letter from Ambassador Chen Jian, Deputy Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations, to you in your capacity as Chairman of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country, dated 13 January 1993, I have the honour to forward to you the following information relating to that matter.

At 1600 hours on 13 November 1992, Mr. Yang Jie, a legal adviser at the People's Republic of China Ministry of Foreign Affairs, was the victim of a vicious assault/robbery in front of Pennsylvania Station, New York City. Mr. Yang, in New York attending the United Nations General Assembly, was transported by the first police officers on the scene to St. Vincent's Hospital, where he was treated for a serious stab wound. It is my understanding that the quick action of the responding police officers in getting Mr. Yang medical treatment played a major role in this injury not becoming life-threatening. Mr. Yang told the police he could not identify his assailant.

New York City Police authorities continue to take this incident very seriously, assigning the case to a special Robbery Investigation task force. This unit canvassed the area in an attempt to locate any witnesses, but have thus far been unsuccessful. In addition, Mr. Yang's description of the robber was vague at best, and, unless an eyewitness comes forward, there is little real hope that his attacker could be identified.

The United States takes its responsibilities and obligations for the safety and security of the United Nations diplomatic community very seriously. As the Chinese Mission is well aware, the United States has been most responsive to any and all problems of this nature. For many years

uniformed police have been assigned at their diplomatic locations when the situation warrants a police presence. This act, however deplorable, was not a political act, nor directed at the Chinese or any diplomat; it was a crime of opportunity and Mr. Yang was unfortunately present when this criminal struck. The United States condemns this criminal action.

In subsequent discussions with Chinese Mission members regarding this incident, the Chinese representatives indicated their desire to send a letter to the New York City Police Commissioner praising the fast action of the police at the scene of the incident.

The United States Mission, through the New York City Police Department's Intelligence Division, has arranged for Chinese-speaking police officers from the Community Affairs Division to visit the Chinese Mission and provide information on crime prevention and avoidance to those interested parties. While this will not find Mr. Yang's attacker, perhaps it will prevent a similar occurrence in the future.

I would be grateful if you could circulate this letter as a document of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country.

(Signed) Irvin HICKS

---